

Delta Currents

The Magazine of Delta State University

Volume 6, Number 2

Spring 2000

A photograph of Rick Post, a man with short dark hair, smiling and wearing a dark jacket over a light-colored striped shirt. He is standing in front of a large window with a grid pattern.

Rick Post **MediaOne Group** **communications** **executive and** **DSU Alumnus**

**The Campaign for Delta State
Reaches Milestone with
\$10.7 Million in Contributions**

**DSU Indoor Baseball Facility
to be named after former
player, Bryce Griffis**

**President's Inauguration
Scheduled**

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& Chief Financial Officer, MediaOne Group



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ON THE COVER

In this issue of Delta Currents, we feature MediaOne Group communications executive and alumnus, Rick Post. Post, who attended Delta State University from 1978-1981, credits the university for a lot of his success - both business and personal. Read his story on page 15.



Archie Manning meets with Dr. Potter

Dr. David Potter (right) and "Coach" Don A. Skelton (center) enjoy visiting with Drew native and former New Orleans Saints quarterback, Archie Manning (left) at a Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame reception.



Dr. David Potter, President
Delta State University

A Word From Our President

Delta State is near completion of a strategic planning process that will guide our future development. The process had widespread participation within the university and beyond. The emerging plan builds on our strong foundation from the past to confront the challenges of a future that portends great change. Our goal is to continue to draw upon the qualities that distinguish a Delta State education and our university identity while adapting to new circumstances, preserving our integrity while extending our reach and enhancing our reputation.

Foremost among our distinctive qualities is recognition as an institution of academic excellence, based on a fundamental commitment to teaching and learning. These are exciting times to be engaged in learning. We are beginning to reap the benefits of fresh insights from many disciplines into the human capacity for learning. We will incorporate these new understandings into our teaching to enrich and expand our students' learning. In addition, many changes influencing our lives today come from innovations in information and communication technologies which, if used wisely, can enliven and deepen the learning experience. We will explore creative ways to use these tools to improve the quality of instruction.

Anticipating these changes in pedagogy, we will be aided by another distinguishing feature of Delta State - the commitment of our faculty and staff to provide students with a friendly, open and caring environment in which to learn. We know through recent studies that the learning climate significantly affects the prospects for learning, and that an environment combining positive and holistic support while offering real challenges works best. That is a hallmark of Delta State campus life.

We also know that learning takes root when students are able to test and apply new-found knowledge in real-world settings. The interplay between practice and reflection is best achieved through experiential learning beyond the walls of the campus. We will expand these opportunities for students, drawing on another fundamental characteristic of Delta State - our partnerships with the larger community. We have long enjoyed the support and involvement of our friends and alumni in the Cleveland area. Increasingly, we are being sought after and welcomed by other communities in the Delta. As a regional university, we have a special responsibility to help Delta citizens pursue economic and community development. We are excited about new partnerships to accomplish this mission even while we continue to build our Cleveland campus base.

These are some of the efforts now underway to secure the future of Delta State. Crucial to these initiatives is the support of the entire university family, especially our alumni and friends. Tangible evidence of their loyalty is found in the recently completed capital campaign, which exceeded its goals by more than 200 percent. Public universities can achieve excellence only through the generosity of private donors whose contributions complement and augment scarce public resources. We are grateful for the remarkable support provided by our family and friends. It represents an investment in what Delta State has meant and can mean in people's lives by drawing on our distinguished past to create an even brighter future. We pledge to be effective stewards of that investment, and to fulfill the rich promise of this university in partnership with all of you in the years ahead.

Dr. David Potter
DSU President

DSU Students Begin FedEx Internships

Valerie Bullock, a junior aviation major from Southaven, and Jennifer Townsend, a junior finance major from Cleveland, began a six-month internship with Federal Express in January. The two DSU students will intern in Memphis with assignments to project teams providing a broad range of advisory services to corporate and operations management.



Caston Elected to Accrediting Association

Dr. E. E. "Butch" Caston, dean of the DSU College of Education, has been elected to the policy-making leadership of the Commission on Elementary and Middle Schools of the regional accrediting association, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.



Dr. Caston

With a membership in excess of 12,000 accredited members, the Southern Association is a non-governmental, voluntary agency, one of six regional accrediting agencies in the United States.

DSU Adds Fall Break

Delta State University officials have announced that Delta State will have its first-ever fall break. The campus will close on Thursday and Friday, October 12-13, during the middle of the fall 2000 semester.

"I think it will be good for students, faculty and staff," said Dr. Wayne Blansett, vice president of Student Affairs. "It's a good time to get a second wind, and then they're ready to finish up the remainder of the semester."

Responding to a request by the Delta State Student Government Association, the State College Board approved the concept last year and made more vacation days available so individual universities could implement the break.

"We wanted to be responsive to the student leadership and we feel the break can be accommodated without a reduction in the number of class hours," said DSU President Dr. David Potter.

Supportive of the fall break, SGA President Justin "Fish" Robinson said "the break will benefit DSU's out-of-state students who don't have an opportunity to go home often and also those first-semester freshmen who are struggling with the issue of being homesick."



"Mrs. O.D." Happy at Work

from an article by Denise Jones/The Delta Statement

Odealier J. Morgan, or "Mrs. O. D." as most call her, has been working at the Delta State laundry since 1958. She has seen many changes during her 41 years at the university, especially in the area of student fashion.

Now 73 years of age, Morgan is at work each morning at 6 a.m. and leaves at 2:30 p.m. just like the rest of the employees. Although she has crippling arthritis in her legs, she keeps on working. She retired once for a short while but missed her work so much that she soon returned. She has said that working also helps her arthritis.

"She loves her job," said Nealy Robinson, director of the laundry. "She would work through her breaks if we would let her." Not arguing the point, Morgan says, "if there is work at the end of the day, we just stay and finish."

In talking with fellow workers, it is obvious that Morgan is respected by all. Annie Daughtery has worked alongside her for nine years. "Mrs. Odealier is fun to work with. We laugh and have a good time," said Daughtery.



"Mrs. O.D." still hard at work

Another co-worker is Mary Zell Williams who first came to the laundry 16 years ago.

"Mrs. O.D. takes care of everyone, she's like our mom," Williams said.

Mae Francis Jordan has been at the laundry for 13 years. "I admire her (Morgan) because she could be at home taking it easy," Jordan said. "She is one in a million."

Noticing how much her mother enjoyed her job, Morgan's daughter, Lucille, decide to apply for a job at the laundry also. She has been working with her mother for almost ten years.

Morgan's reaction is simply that she enjoys her job at the laundry and looks forward to coming to work each day. "Delta State has been very good to me," she said. "I appreciate every minute I have been here."

A visit to the DSU laundry reveals that its workers are like family. Everyone works as a team and looks out for each other and "Mrs. O.D. is the knot that ties the family together."

"You have to work for what you get," said Morgan, who says that God is her top priority. She lives each day to the fullest and before she leaves work every day, she always says, "I hope to see you in the morning."

Morgan says she hopes to work at the laundry for many more years. Mrs. O.D., we hope so too!

DSU Plans Superintendent's Academy

In response to a growing concern among Mississippi educators regarding a shrinking pool of potential school superintendents, Delta State University officials are planning the establishment of a superintendents' academy in the College of Education through a partnership with The National Faculty.

DSU President Dr. David Potter said the university and The National Faculty have "significant expertise, presence and a history of success in the fields of professional development and policy formulation."

The idea for the academy was originated by Dr. Everett E. Caston, dean of the College of Education. He and colleague Dr. Virgil Strickland, associate professor of curriculum and instruction, sought the help of The National Faculty President Dr. Rob Baird to bring the academy to fruition.

"Authorities agree that many administrators lack a full understanding of the complexity of the job and do not possess the skills required to undertake the responsibilities of district leadership," said Caston. "So we devised the Superintendents' Academy to counter the trend and to develop a pool of highly-qualified persons to lead school districts into the next millennium."

Plans call for the establishment of a leadership program this summer to prepare potential candidates with the requisite understanding and skills inherent in effective leadership.

"Candidates will receive intellectual support and practical assistance to deal with the complexities of the job," Caston said. "A second phase of the academy will be developed to assist practicing superintendents increase their effectiveness by conducting professional development designed for continuous improvement."

Thornell named Associate Vice President

DSU President Dr. David Potter announced that Dr. John Thornell has been named Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs. Thornell previously served the university as dean of Graduate Studies and Continuing Education.



Dr. John Thornell

"This newly created position will give leadership to existing and new campus-wide academic initiatives as well as provide support to the vice president of Academic Affairs," said Dr. Frank McArthur, vice president for Academic Affairs.

Thornell, who has been at Delta State since 1975, has served as a faculty member in the College of Education and the History department. He served for ten years as the director of Institutional Research before being named dean of Graduate Studies in 1989.

National Organization Honors Robinson

Dr. Jerry Robinson Jr., Distinguished Professor of Rural Sociology and Professor of Social Science at Delta State, has received the Rural Sociological Society's highest honor, the Distinguished Rural Sociologist Award.



Dr. Jerry Robinson, Jr.

The award was presented to Robinson at the annual meeting of the Rural Sociological Society (RSS) in Chicago in recognition of his contributions to rural life in Mississippi, Illinois, the nation, and internationally.

In accepting the award, Robinson told the audience: "This award must be shared with all those who worked so hard and provided strong support for me since I entered graduate school in 1962."

DATES TO REMEMBER!

DSU "Pig Pickin" - September 23, 2000

DSU Homecoming - October 21, 2000



DSU Campus Getting a New Look

The Delta State campus continues to take on a new look as current construction projects move toward completion and new projects begin.

Dr. Robert Nettles, Vice President for Business Affairs, said campus construction of the \$6.4 million Aquatics and Fitness Center and the \$5.4 million men's residence hall is "coming very well." He also pointed to the progress being made in the construction of the \$13.2 million Greenville Higher Education Center and the completion and occupancy of the W.B. Roberts Library expansion.

The Aquatics and Fitness Center, which should be completed by October or November of 2000, includes an Olympic-Size-Plus pool with diving wells, dressing rooms, a training room, offices and classrooms, as well as a 600 person spectator area.

Nettles also announced that construction has begun on the Indoor Baseball Facility, which is a private support project. The 10,000 square foot facility is being constructed west of the Ferriss Field baseball site.

"The Mississippi Legislature has been very generous to the university in funding these projects over the past several years," said DSU President Dr. David Potter. "The library addition significantly enhances our students' resources and research capabilities, provides much-needed additional space and includes a state-of-the-art computer center."

Nettles said future capital construction projects include funding for construction on a new Administration/Classroom building, as well as funds for other renovation projects. It is noted that projects in progress provide more than \$30 million economic impact to the Cleveland and Bolivar County area.

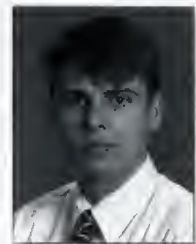


Construction of the new men's dorm and the aquatic and fitness center



Hawks named King Award Winner

David Franklin Hawks, a senior accounting major at Delta State, was named the Hamp King Award winner for 1999 by the Mississippi Society of Certified Accountants. Named for the late state auditor, the award goes to the student who has the highest grades among the society's 10 scholarship recipients representing the state colleges and universities with an accounting program.



David Franklin Hawks

Hawks has maintained a 4.0 grade point average in accounting and a 4.0 overall grade point average. He is a member of Omicron Delta Kappa, Phi Delta Kappa, Delta Mu Delta, the DSU Accounting Honor Society, Phi Eta Sigma and Order of Omega. He has served as president of the Student Accountants and Business Administration Club, two-term treasurer of Kappa Sigma fraternity, SGA senator, and student orientation leader.

Active in religious organizations and intramural sports, Hawks is a member of the Student Alumni Association and the DSU band.

A graduate of Oxford High School, David is the son of Greg and Melissa Hawks of Oxford.

We Need Your Help!

We want to write a book and we want you to be a part of it. We would like to get your amusing anecdote, or story about Delta State University and we are going to compile them into a book that we can give to prospective students.

Tell us about how a teacher was an influence on your life. Tell us about fellow students or staff members that made your stay at DSU memorable. Tell us the good the bad and the ugly about the coaches and sports at DSU. Tell us how your degree from DSU has helped you in your life.

We think these stories can be uplifting to those who are thinking about attending Delta State University. We will have two categories; amusing stories of teachers, staff or fellow students, and inspirational stories of how DSU has changed your life. Any story in any category would be appreciated. We will edit them and publish them in a book to be called "Memories of Delta State University."

Will you help us?

Just write it down, type it or call **Dr. Michael Thompson, Professor of Marketing**, at (662) 846-4194 and leave your story. You may also mail your story to DSU, P.O. Box 3122, Cleveland, MS 38733. Over the past 75 years Delta State has touched so many people in so many ways and we need to record those moments for history.

Please include the following with your story or anecdote:

Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Degree Received: _____ Year Attended DSU: _____

** By responding you are granting us permission to edit and publish your story.*

We hope that you see the importance of this project. The 75th anniversary of Delta State University is upon us and we need to make this happen now. Thanks.

Flight Team Wins Regional; National Next

Already knowing that it will serve as host to the 2000 National Intercollegiate Flying Association Safety and Flight Evaluation Conference (SAFECON), Delta State University's Precision Flight Team won the recent Region IV competition held at the Cleveland, MS Municipal Airport. DSU's aeronauts piled up 206 points to easily outdistance runner-up Louisiana Tech's 119 points as they won both the flight and overall competition.

Next up for the Statesmen Flight Team will be the national championships to be held at the Grenada, MS Municipal Airport May 16-20.

Jon Bailey of Winona won three events, including the Top Pilot, finished second in one event and was in the top ten in four other events. His total of 56 points were just ahead of teammate Scott Alexander of Blacksburg, Va.

Gary Hemphill, professor of Commercial Aviation and coach of the team, said the "regional championships are preliminaries to the national championships of collegiate flying. This success is the result of months of preparation by the top flight teams in the region."



Mississippi Business Publications Recognize Several DSU Alumni

Recently, several of Delta State's alumni have been recognized as leaders in their professions. The *Delta Business Journal* included Margaret Ann Bishop, Key Britt, Denise Cameron, Darlene Carey, Debbie Christmas, Dottie Collins, Marilyn Dattle, Charlotte Edwards, Vicki Fioranelli, Beverly Fratesi, Lucy Janoush, Lois McMurchy, Bobbie G. Miller, Beverly M. Nobile, Lisa Saxton, Raanne Tindle, and Tana Vassel in its "Delta's Top 75 Women in Business" listing published in February.

The *Mississippi Business Journal* cited Frank Bradford, Jr., Katrina Boyette Myricks, and Celia A. Ryals in its "Top 40 Under 40" list, which was published in January.

Professor a Winner in the Classroom and Weightroom

Richard McCaslin, a 1982 Delta State graduate, is a tenured professor at High Point University in High Point, North Carolina. He has authored seven non-fiction books, earned his Ph.D. in history, and won a national championship in weightlifting. McCaslin admits to two passionate hobbies - that of being a Civil War buff and "pumping iron" - he excels at both.



Richard McCaslin

McCaslin has taught at High Point since 1990. He has written on the Civil War in Texas, North Carolina and South Carolina, and has produced official histories for the University of Texas, the Texas Senate and High Point University. A Civil War specialist, McCaslin also teaches Frontier American History, North American Studies, American Military History and Modern Latin American History.

McCaslin continues to write extensively, publishing articles and book reviews in professional journals and compilations. For his work he is listed in Contemporary Authors and Who's Who in America, and was elected to membership in the Historical Society of North Carolina.

While he has always worked out, McCaslin began weightlifting seriously in August of 1996. "People do seem to be fascinated by the sight of a history professor lifting weights, but it relieves stress and hopefully will help me to live longer," said McCaslin. "The contest just seemed to be a good way to keep me going to the gym."

In winning the 1999 Powersports National Championship in the submasters class (ages 30-39), McCaslin curled 165 lbs., benchpressed 353 lbs., and deadlifted 507 lbs.

From lifting, he said he learned the value of perseverance. "Doing hard work and doing it a little bit each day gets you there. Never give up." Looking ahead, he is now aiming at new personal marks of 185 in the curl, 400 in the bench press and deadlifting over 600 lbs.

While he maintains a disciplined schedule of working out two hours a day, four days a week, he devotes his weekends to his family. The remainder of his free time is spent in research and writing about historical topics.

"The things that make me be able to write a book a year are the things I learned in sports," McCaslin said. "Perseverance, hard work, discipline and a work ethic of doing a little bit each day."

McCaslin at a Glance

- **Home:** High Point, N.C.; originally from Ocean Springs, Mississippi
- **Education:** Ph.D. in history from University of Texas; M.A. in history/political science from Delta State University
- **Family:** Wife, Jana; daughter, Christy; grandson, Kaleb
- **Lifting Awards:** North Carolina state records in the curl, bench press, and deadlift for Natural Athletes Strength Association; First Place in Powersports National Championships sunmaster class, 250.2 lb. division.



Former First Lady Recognized

Janice Collins Wyatt has been named the 1999-2000 recipient of the **President's Award** for devotion and contributions to and support of the Arts in Education Program at the Bologna Performing Arts Center.



Janice Collins Wyatt

The President's Award is given to an individual who is deemed the most outstanding volunteer for the Performing Arts at the university. In making the presentation, DSU President Dr. David Potter said, "Janice has worked diligently in pursuit of excellence for the Arts in Education Program and it is most appropriate that she be recognized for her outstanding efforts."

"From its inception, Janice has had a strong interest in and has actively worked to promote the Arts in Education Program as a cultural resource for the Delta," said Caroline Gaines, one of the initial recipients of the President's Award and longtime friend of Mrs. Wyatt.

"Her commitment to education fueled her interest in pursuing a permanent summer arts institute. She recognized what a major contribution a quality arts education program would make to the university and the entire Delta," Gaines said. "The leadership of the center and its volunteers have all responded positively to Janice's enthusiasm and dedication. Her service and influence cannot be measured."

In recognition of Mrs. Wyatt's efforts, the 1999 Mississippi Legislature established, funded and named the program, **The Janice Wyatt Summer Arts Institute**.

Check Us Out!

Delta State has a Web Page! Look for us at:
<http://www.deltast.edu>

The next time you travel the information superhighway, stop at Delta State's web site. Our site will provide you with information on the university, alumni activities, sports events, the Bologna Performing Arts Center, DSU's online admissions application, class schedules, tuition & fees, faculty, staff and student directories, plus much more.

Get Linked With Delta State!





Moreheads put Careers on Hold

From October 1998 to October 1999 Audrey and Billy Morehead literally put their careers here in the United States on hold. They both took leaves of absence from their employers in the Jackson, MS area and accepted a 12-month assignment to work in Dakar, Senegal (West Africa) as International Service Corps volunteers with the International Board (IB) in Richmond, Virginia.



Moreheads stand in front of African hut.

Billy's primary responsibility was to coordinate financial matters for some 40 individuals working with the IB in three countries of West Africa while his wife, Audrey, had the responsibility for performing research on a specific people group.

To help fulfill their responsibilities in working with a variety of financial currencies and the different languages encountered, Audrey and Billy studied French, the primary regional language, as well as learning the basic greetings for dialects of five additional people groups.

In addition, Billy used his skills as an accountant and auditor to work with other IB clusters within Africa, traveling to The Gambia and throughout Senegal as well as many other African nations. While most of their travels were work-related, they also were able to enjoy several pleasure outings, including a December African Safari and excursions to

Austria, southern Germany, Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

While happy to be back home in Mississippi, the Moreheads are quick to point to their experience as one that was rewarding and rich in memories. "We will never regret taking a year out of our careers to experience this most exciting and challenging assignment," said the Moreheads. "Our eyes have definitely been opened to the world. We really enjoyed our work and the many people we met. The Africans were friendly and enjoyed welcoming us into their homes."

The Moreheads also encourage others to consider "putting your careers on hold and use your gifts and talents to help people in other parts of the world." They maintain that such an experience will not only help to serve others but will also serve to enrich one's life. "While our work was not always easy and some of the conditions we had to deal with were unpleasant, we will never regret our decision to go to Africa."



Moreheads enjoy an African meal in the village.

Kathleen Buckley - A Super Senior

Kathleen Bingham Buckley, a native of Winona and a 1954 Delta State graduate, was named the 1999 Adult Female Tennis Player of the Year by the Mississippi Tennis Association.



Kathleen Buckley

A longtime resident of Starkville, Buckley began playing tennis at Winona High School where she won State Championships in 1947, 1948 and 1949. She continued her athletic career at Holmes Junior College for two years before attending Delta State.

Buckley's devotion to tennis, her music profession, and to the betterment of her community is well documented as she has actively engaged in a career of civic, cultural and community services extending over a half century. In addition to serving as a public and private school music teacher for 49 years, she has served on boards of directors for the Starkville Parks and Recreation Department, the Miss Hospitality program, the Junior Miss program, the Very Fine Arts program and the Starkville Tennis Association.

Currently participating with as many as six different tennis teams from Starkville, Columbus and Jackson, Buckley continues to compete with the best at the game she loves and has played for 50-plus years. She was one of a team of four chosen to represent Mississippi in the 1999 Southern Senior Cup in Columbus, Ga. and, by winning the Super Senior State Championship, qualified to represent

Mississippi at Litchfield, S.C. January 19-23, 2000.

A mother of two and grandmother to four, she and her husband, Don, reside in Starkville where she continues to teach music and play tennis.

DSU Alumnus Heads the Enterprise Corporation of the Delta's office in Clarksdale

The Enterprise Corporation of the Delta (ECD) has already served businesses in the Mississippi Delta. By opening a new regional office in Clarksdale, the nonprofit business development organization furthers its commitment to helping the Delta work.



Cassandra Williams

Cassandra Williams will staff the new office, located in the Stevens Building. Williams was formerly assistant vice president of Union Planters Bank. A graduate of Delta State University, she is currently a member of the board of directors of the Clarksdale/Coahoma Industrial Foundation and Habitat for Humanity. She knows that there is great potential for ECD's work and says that "there are hundreds of area businesses that 'just need a helping hand.'"

Since 1994, ECD has helped more than 900 firms and entrepreneurs. The company provides debt and equity capital and helps companies get much needed technical assistance from accountants, engineers and other experts.

ECD also partners with the region's banks and economic developers to find ways to start, strengthen and expand businesses and create and stabilize jobs for Delta residents.

"ECD has been successful at working with and for the Delta," says Williams, "and I'm excited about the opportunity to be a part of taking this work to the next level."

Cassandra Williams may be reached at 621-1995 and Cwilliams@ecd.org. For more information on ECD's programs and services, call (601) 944-1100, or visit the ECD website at www.ecd.org

Want To Hire The Best? Hire A Delta State Graduate!

The DSU Career Services and Placement Office can help you find qualified graduates to fill your company's needs.

Contact:

Vicki Fioranelli, Director of Career Services
(662) 846-4646

P.O. Box 3174 • Cleveland, MS 38733
vfioran@dsu.deltast.edu



DSU Alumnus Dr. Raanne Tindle, has the Distinction of Being the First Female Dentist in Cleveland

In 1983, Raanne Tindle graduated from Delta State University with academic honors and entered the University of Mississippi Dental School in Jackson. Today she has her own dental clinic in Cleveland.

"During my senior year of high school, my mother told me that it was time for me to make a decision about what I wanted to do with my life," says Tindle. "I knew that I wanted to do something in the health care field, and I knew that I wanted to work with my hands. Dentistry just seemed the obvious choice."

After Tindle made her decision, she spent her remaining days in high school polishing her grades in order to be accepted into dental school. Tindle continued her rigorous study schedule at Delta State and was accepted into dental school in '83. While in dental school, she was the first senior to complete all requirements a half year early and was also one of only two students to successfully complete every part of a senior comprehensive exam the first time tested. After graduation, Tindle accepted a position with the dental unit at Parchman Penitentiary.

"At that time, all I wanted to do was to pay back my school loans," she says. "I thought that after I accomplished this, I would try to start my own practice."

At the end of every day at Parchman, Tindle would jump into her car and drive to Cleveland in order to see patients at a second job that was with another dentist. "I would see patients until about 10:00 every night and get up the next morning and do it all over again," says Tindle.

For two years, this was Tindle's daily (and nightly schedule) until she had saved enough money to open her own practice in Cleveland one month after her daughter was born.

"I started out with one dental chair and one assistant/receptionist," says Tindle. "Three months later, I added a second chair and hired another employee."

After the first year, Tindle's practice began to grow, and she expanded, adding additional employees.

Recently, Tindle has purchased her own building and has six employees. Her practice continues to grow, and although she is no longer the only female dentist in Cleveland, she was the first.



Raanne Tindle

Mr. & Miss. DSU Named

Paul "Bubba" Mancini of Indianola and Lesley Foster of Clarksdale were recently named as Mr. and Miss Delta State University for 1999. Foster was also on the DSU Homecoming Court for 1999. Mancini is the vice president of the Student Government Association at DSU.



ALUMNI CHAPTER NEWS

1999

- Oct. 25** Members of the DSU science faculty met with Delta State alumni attending the professional schools at the University Medical Center in Jackson.
- Nov. 2** The Leflore County Alumni Chapter held its annual meeting at the Greenwood Country Club with Dr. Potter serving as featured speaker and members of Renaissance providing entertainment.
- Nov. 4** The DSU Travel Group enjoyed a day of shopping at the Mistletoe Marketplace in Jackson.
- Dec. 9** The Alumni/Foundation office staff hosted an afternoon Christmas Party for all Delta State faculty and staff retirees.

2000

- Jan. 9** The DSU Travel group traveled to Memphis for lunch at the Peabody Hotel's Dux Restaurant and a matinee performance of Ragtime at the Orpheum Theatre.
- Jan. 25** The Baton Rouge alumni gathered at Cippriani's restaurant with several campus representatives providing an update on campus activities.
- Feb. 15** Attala/Holmes Alumni Chapter meeting was held at Cafe on the Square in Kosciusko.
- March 16** The Gulf Coast Alumni Chapter meeting will be held at the Catch of the Day Restaurant in Ocean Springs. Dr. David Potter will be the featured speaker.
- March 17** The DSU Travel Group are scheduled to enjoy dinner and a performance of Stars on Ice at the Memphis Coliseum.
- March 21** Golden Triangle/Columbus Area Alumni Chapter will have a dinner meeting at the Golden Horn Restaurant. A weekend golf trip for four will be given away.
- March 28** The Bolivar County Alumni Chapter have scheduled a community-wide crawfish boil at the Bolivar County Expo Building as a part of the university's week-long inaugural activities for Dr. Potter.

For information on upcoming alumni meetings and trips, visit the Delta State web page at:

www.deltast.edu

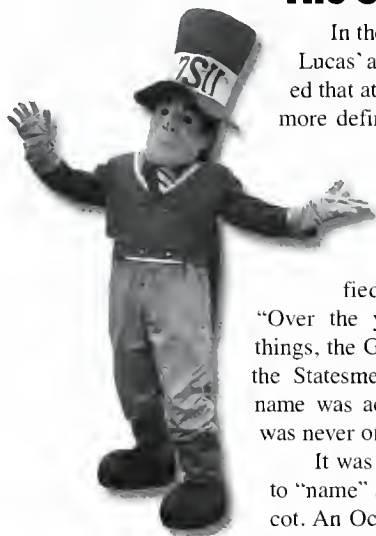


Is the Mascot for DSU a Statesman or a Fighting Okra?

This is one of the most frequently asked questions of the Alumni office. When asked, the answer is always the same - the "official" mascot of the university is the Statesman. To better understand the DSU mascot situation, let's take a look at the history of both the official and unofficial mascots.

In 1975 after years of unofficial use, the Delta State student body officially chose a Statesman and Lady Statesman as its athletic mascots. The Statesman and Lady Statesman caricatures, drawn by Ricky Nobile, were also adopted in 1975. While this seems a simple explanation, there is much more to the story.

The Statesman



In the early stages (1970s) of Dr. Aubrey Lucas' administration SGA officials requested that attention be given to the selection of a more definable mascot. Dr. Kent Wyatt, then an assistant to President Lucas, said that two of the leading complaints with the Statesman were that it did not evoke a clear-cut image and it could not be identified with both males and females. "Over the years we have been called many things, the Greenies, the Flatlanders, and finally the Statesmen," said Wyatt. "Even though the name was accepted down through the years, it was never officially adopted."

It was soon after that a decision was made to "name" a new and more representative mascot. An October 3, 1974 article by Miss Delta editor Willis Lucroy summarized the selection process, saying "The Delta State Statesman will soon relinquish his position in favor of a cougar, a cropduster, or an alligator. These three choices were submitted by an anonymous committee appointed by Dr. Aubrey Lucas, university president, in accordance with an earlier committee's criteria. The final decision on which mascot will be adopted lies with DSU students, faculty and alumni."

While original plans were to announce the results and name the new mascot (cougar, cropduster or alligator) at the 1974 homecoming, only 129 total votes were recorded. The low turnout and other concerns prompted Dr. Lucas to void the balloting. Stating that "a mascot should be a symbol which unites rather than divides," Lucas asked the original committee, chaired by mathematics professor Ray Wilson, to resume the study of the issue and also requested that a new ballot, including the Statesman and other suggested mascots be drawn for future consideration. As you might imagine, Lucas' decision was greeted with a variety of reactions.

In April of 1975 another mascot election was scheduled. This time 948 students, faculty and alumni submitted ballots with 625 favoring the Statesman. In announcing the results Dr. Lucas said, "It is obvious that the majority of those casting ballots prefer to retain the Statesman as its "official" mascot.

The Fighting Okra

It was in the spring of 1998 that a group of DSU baseball players decided that the Statesman mascot was much too docile and did nothing to strike fear into the hearts of opponents. The group, apparently in jest, began to explore other names that met their requirements for being "green and more ferocious." From this conversation came the recommended names of algae and okra. It was then that Robert Black said, "you know okra is green and southern, and ugly - maybe we could be the Okra." Once suggested, the team was in agreement that OKRA would become their rallying cry for Delta State athletics.

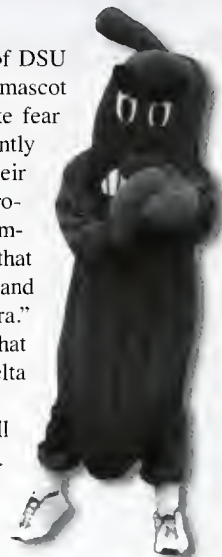
At the next basketball game the baseball team began the chants of okra, O-K-R-A. Almost immediately, fellow students and others joined in. Soon other chants such as "We're mean, we're green, we're the okra team" were heard throughout Sillers Coliseum.

Ross Reily and David Dallas, reporters with the campus newspaper, The Statement, began to publicize the idea of the okra, with the Coliseum being referred to as the "okradome" and through articles relating to the birth of the okra. Soon the sororities, fraternities and other student organizations adopted the "Fighting Okra" as its unofficial mascot.

Since its humble beginning, the Fighting Okra has been the topic of numerous articles, commentary and cartoons in publications ranging from the Jackson (Miss.) Clarion-Ledger to the Dallas (Texas) Morning News. Recently a sign depicting the Fighting Okra was seen nationwide on the NBC Today Show from New York City. Today, Fighting Okra t-shirts and beanie babies are a sought-after item from the university bookstore.

In 1998 the Student Alumni Association asked a member, Brian Formby, to consider wearing an okra costume in the fall homecoming parade. Mirroring an image that originated in a 1998 cartoon by Godfrey Jones of the Clarion-Ledger, Formby designed and made the costume and his appearance in the parade was an immediate and popular success.

Today the "Fighting Okra" is still very much a part of Delta State University. The Statesman and the Okra mascots both appear at athletic contests and assist the cheerleaders in stimulating support.



DSU Surpasses all Expectations; Raising \$10.7 Million in recent Capital Campaign

Campaign Rises to 200% Over Original Goal

When the clock rang twelve o'clock midnight on January 1, 2000 not only did the new millennium begin, a goal was reached at Delta State University that will forever change the way the University approaches fund raising. In 1995 *The Campaign For Delta State: Changing Vision into Reality* was kicked off with a goal of raising \$5 million by the year 2000. Well, not only did the vision become reality, it more than surpassed anyone's expectations, raising over \$10.7 million. This is particularly significant in light of the fact that previously DSU had never raised more than \$1 million for any one project.

"The success of our recent capital campaign is most heartening and of vital importance to Delta State's future," Delta State President Dr. David Potter said. "The participation in the campaign reflects the strong base of support this university enjoys throughout the Delta community and among its alumni. The gifts are critical to ensure that the university has the additional resources that provide a measure of excellence unattainable if we are exclusively dependent on state funding. We are grateful to all our friends who have made this possible, and for helping us far exceed our expectations."

The Campaign, which targeted private funds, primarily addressed three areas: the Bologna Performing Arts Center, the Science Endowment, and Faculty Development. "We felt these areas were important because of the impact they have. BPAC brings people to our campus, possibly prospective students, providing educational and cultural enjoyment. It is one of the most visible aspects of the University," former DSU president Dr. Kent Wyatt, said in a previous interview. It was under Wyatt's direction that the campaign was initiated and brought to such success.

During the five years of the campaign, the University benefited with growth in many other areas as well. The following figures, represented by "percentage growth" show the areas which received the most impact: Faculty Development Program - 250% increase; Privately-funded Student Scholarships - 139% increase; Planned Gifts designated through a will, life insurance policy, or other bequest - 2,200% increase; Endowment Fund Investment Account - 85% increase; University Budget - 328% increase.

"I think this campaign shows that creating an organized way to go out and raise money can be very effective," said Ned Mitchell, president of the DSU Foundation. "At Delta State we had never really tried to do that much fund raising until a few years ago. The campaign also demonstrates that there are a lot of people out there willing to give to education and I think this shows the public has a great interest in education."

"It is just unbelievable, the milestone that the campaign reached," says alumnus Dr. Robert Elliott, national co-chair for the campaign. "It meant a lot to me to meet and work with Dr. Bologna, who was a doctor in Greenville when I was growing up there. He gave a significant contribution to the campaign." Dr. Nino Bologna is the primary benefactor of the Performing Arts Center which now bears his name.

"This is a great example of what happens when people are motivated and are willing to give just a little, it mushrooms and by just putting in a little effort, you get a lot back," said Dr. Elliott.

Louis Baioni, a graduate and longtime supporter of DSU, is former chair of the Delta State University Foundation Board and provided great encouragement to Dr. Wyatt when the ideas for the Campaign program were first being developed. "I am certainly very pleased we were able to

more than double our original goal of \$5 million. None of this would have been possible without the collective efforts of the foundation board, the support of area businesses and individual contributors," he said.

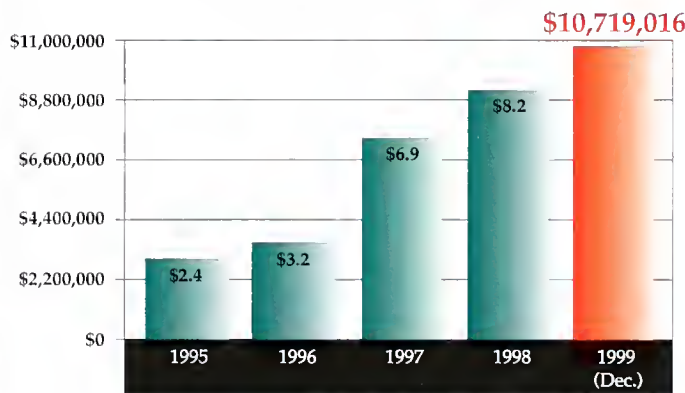
"I want to extend a very special thanks for the efforts of Kent Wyatt, the Foundation office staff, past DSU Foundation Board President Billy Nowell, and present DSU Foundation President, Ned Mitchell. Hopefully, now that we've got this campaign behind us, and we know we can accomplish what we set out to do, I'll be real excited for them to commence a new one, and I'll be happy to support it to the extent that I can," concluded Baioni.

According to Don Skelton, executive director of the Alumni Foundation, plans are underway to develop a new campaign. "We are working on a new campaign that will kick off next fall, coinciding with Delta State's 75th anniversary," he said.



Big Bucks: Dr. Jim Avery, president of the Alumni Association (left) and Ned Mitchell, president of the Delta State Foundation (right), present a check for \$10.7 million to Dr. David Potter (center) in conclusion to the *The Campaign for Delta State*.

The Campaign for Delta State Exceeded Original Goal by 200%

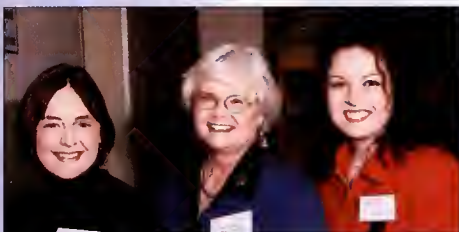




The Annual Scholarship Reception held on December 9, 1999 honored all donors who provide for an annual or an endowed scholarship. The following two pages show photos representing the donors to over 100 privately funded scholarships. These funds total \$101,000 in scholarship monies, and are made available to deserving and needy students.

Delta State University is grateful for the generosity of our alumni, friends, faculty, staff, both current and retired, and businesses that provide privately funded scholarships to help the University continue the mission of providing a quality education to deserving students.

To discuss establishing a scholarship to assist a student in attending Delta State University call 662.846.4708 or email Keith Fulcher, Coordinator of Development, at kfulcher@dsu.deltast.edu. Gifts may also be made to an existing scholarship.



Walker-Line-Heard Special Education Scholarship

In 1978 Mrs. Saralie Robinson Heard, a 1937 graduate of Delta State, initiated a scholarship for a student majoring in Special Education. In 1998, Mrs. Heard, daughter Cheryl Line, and son, Leslie Walker created a second scholarship. Pictured with Dr. Ginger Hollimon (center), chair of the Division of Behavioral Sciences at Delta State, are the 1999 recipients (l to r) Ginger Liddell of Grenada and Carrie Howell of Senatobia.

Dr. & Mrs. A. L. Young Memorial Scholarship

In 1979 Marjorie and Leon Young established a scholarship in the College of Education in honor of their mother and father, who was a former professor of education at Delta State. Pictured with Dr. E. E. "Butch" Caston, dean of the College of Education, is recipient Mauri Mosley of Jonesboro, LA.



Dr. Andy & Libby Jones Scholarship

The recipient of the Dr. Andy and Libby Jones Scholarship, Penny Greco of Greenville, is pictured with Dr. Andy Jones, former professor of Curriculum and Instruction at Delta State. Dr. Jones, who taught in the Curriculum and Instruction Department at Delta State University for twenty-one years, established the scholarship in 1998.



John P. Quon Accounting Scholarship

Andi McArthur of Marks, received the John P. Quon Accounting Scholarship. Pictured with Andi are Freida and John Quon. The scholarship is awarded to a junior or senior majoring in general accounting. Mr. Quon has taught at DSU for twenty-eight years in the Department of Accountancy. He was recently named the first John Yurkow Distinguished Professor of Accountancy.



James L. Williams Memorial Business Scholarship

In 1998 the family and friends of James L. Williams, a 1974 graduate of Delta State, established a scholarship in his memory. Demeeka Sherale Mhoon of Calhoun City is the recipient. Demeeka is pictured with Dr. Billy Moore, chair of the Division of Economics and Finance.



Dr. Eleanor Walters Math Scholarship

Friends and former students of Dr. Walters created this scholarship, which is awarded to an outstanding math student, in her honor. The recipient, Natalie Pavlich, is from Arroyo Grand, CA. Dr. Walters, former chair of the Department of Math, taught at Delta State University for thirty-six years. She retired in 1979.



W. Steve Richardson Memorial ROTC Scholarship

John D. Kyzar of Grenada is the recipient of this scholarship, named in memory of Steve Richardson, a student at Delta State University when he was fatally wounded in 1985 in a bicycle-automobile accident. Steve was an Army ROTC cadet at the time of the accident. His father, Dr. Steve Richardson of Grenada, established the scholarship in his memory. Pictured with John are (l to r) Captain Jacqueline Randolph and Lt. Col. Elizabeth D. Evans, chair of the Department of Aerospace Studies.



Fugler-Hafter Speech Scholarship

Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Hafter and son, Bryan, of Greenville sponsor two scholarships. Sara Regina Thomas (left) of Rolling Fork is the recipient of the Fugler-Hafter Speech Scholarship. The scholarship is named in memory of Mrs. Madge Quin Fugler, who served on the first Board of Trustees at Delta State Teachers College from 1924-31 and her daughter, Mrs. Mary Margaret Hafter, who was the first speech teacher at Delta State and founder of the Delta Playhouse in 1910. The Hafters have also sponsored the Bryan Hafter March of Dimes Nursing Scholarship.

W. B. Holloway Graduate Accounting Endowed Scholarship

Laura Wolfe of Duncan is the recipient of the W. B. Holloway Graduate Accounting Scholarship. Mr. Holloway, a 1949 graduate of Delta State, is a CPA in Rolling Fork. Mr. Holloway established the scholarship in 1994.



Captain James F. Ouzts, Sr. Memorial Scholarship

Toni Burgos of Nesbit and Trey McClure of Kosciusko are the first recipients of the Captain James F. Ouzts Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship, established in 1998 by Mrs. James F. Ouzts, Sr. and son, Captain Jim Ouzts, is awarded to students majoring in Flight Operations. Pictured with Toni and Trey is Tommy Sledge, chair of the Department of Commercial Aviation.



Cellular South Endowed Scholarships

Jay Hale, Jr. of Senatobia and Joey Weaver of Ruleville (front l to r) are the 1999 recipients of the Cellular South Scholarship awarded through the College of Business. In 1998 Cellular South, Mississippi's largest cellular provider, established the scholarships with a \$100,000 pledge. Representing Cellular South are (l to r) James "Hiriam" Creekmore, member of the Board of Directors, Henry H. Mounger, Manager for Sales Support, John Redmond, Area Manager, and Kay Bullock, Marketing Manager, Cleveland area.

Ambassador Jeanette Hyde Endowed Scholarship

Jeanette Hyde, former U. S. Ambassador and a 1962 graduate of Delta State, established an endowed scholarship. Ambassador Hyde, the University's 1999 "Outstanding Alumnus of the Year," is pictured with (l to r) Ned Mitchell, president of the DSU Foundation and Dr. Don A. Skelton, Executive Director of the DSU Alumni-Foundation.





Capwell Makes \$100,000 Pledge

Dr. Don A. Skelton, executive director for the DSU Foundation, has announced that Jeff Ross Capwell of Memphis, Tennessee has made a \$100,000 pledge/gift to Delta State in support of the University's Music Department and the Bologna Performing Arts Center. Skelton also announced that Capwell's gift serves as a "naming opportunity" gift with the lobby of the Bologna Performing Arts Center to be named in his honor.



Jeff Ross Capwell

"Jeff has supported Delta State since his graduation," said Skelton. "His loyalty to both the university and especially the music department has remained constant. We are most indebted to him for not only this most generous gift, but also for the leadership he provides for the university."

Capwell, who currently serves as Chairman and CEO of National Community Services, Inc. in Memphis, graduated from Delta State in 1960 with a bachelor of science degree in Music and was named to Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities. He would later earn his masters in music education degree from Mississippi State University and participate in advanced graduate studies at Harvard Business School and Magdalene College at Cambridge University in England. He was elected to the DSU Music Hall of Fame in 1982.

Following graduation from Delta State, he was a band director and taught instrumental music in three schools (Clarksdale, Miss., Greenwood, Miss., and Lake Charles, La.) during a 12-year span. In 1972 he started work as a sales representative for Henco, Inc. located in Selmer, Tenn. During the next few years, Capwell moved from sales manager to executive vice president and then president of Henco.

Capwell became a part-owner of National Community Services (NCS) in 1984. The following year he became sole owner of the company. Today NCS is a diversified magazine agency with sales in excess of \$20 million.

Active in civic and professional activities, Capwell is a member of Opera Memphis Board of Trust, past member of the South Memphis and Selmer Rotary Clubs, a member of the Chickasaw Country Club and Old Waverly Golf Club, and an active alumnus of Harvard Business School. Appointed to the Southern Growth Policies Board (SGPB) that involves 13 states in the

Brown Gives \$125,000 Gift

Governor Ronnie Musgrove (right) thanks Mrs. Vivian Hall Brown for her \$125,000 gift to The Renaissance in Coahoma County Project as Jon Levingston, chair of the project, looks on.



Brown, Levingston, and Musgrove

Governor Musgrove was the featured speaker at a press conference held on December 10, 1999 to announce the raising of \$750,000 in three months to purchase the St. Elizabeth Catholic School property, which includes the historic Cutrer Mansion.

The Cutrer Mansion, the setting for many of Tennessee Williams' plays and characters, was listed by the Mississippi Heritage Society as one of the state's ten most endangered historic buildings.

Thanks in part to Mrs. Brown's gift, the property will be converted to a higher education center. This joint educational project between Delta State University and Coahoma Community College will increase the availability of higher education in northwest Mississippi.

Mrs. Brown made her gift in memory of her husband, Norman, who died on February 14, 1998 at the age of 83. The gymnasium located on the twelve-acre property will be named the Norman Brown Memorial Building and a room in the Cutrer Mansion will also be named in his memory.

southern United States and Puerto Rico, he was recently appointed by Pedro Rossello, Governor of Puerto Rico, to the steering committee of the SGPB to oversee the strategic planning process of the board. A member of Delta State University's Inner Circle Society, Capwell is serving his second term as a member of the DSU Foundation Board of Directors.

Capwell resides in Memphis with his wife, Jacqueline, who is a 1961 DSU graduate. They are the parents of two children, Elizabeth and Jeff Ross III.

"Your Place In Time" Alumni Brick Plaza

Delta State is a cherished part of your memories. Now, make your memories a part of Delta State. The Alumni Brick Plaza, located at the heart of campus in front of historic Ward Hall, has been constructed with beautifully engraved commemorative bricks around a 15-foot clock tower. The University's majestic oak trees, most of which were planted by President William Kethley 70 years ago, surround the Alumni Brick Plaza.

Your sponsorship of a personalized brick will be a lasting gift for someone you love: a spouse, child, parent, or your favorite professor. Commemorative bricks are perfect gifts for birthdays, anniversaries, graduation, or any occasion. An engraved brick is an excellent way to show your support of Delta State as the university prepares to celebrate 75 years since its founding.

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____
Street City State Zip

4" x 8" Brick • \$99 Donation (Payable in three installments)

* 8 x 8 bricks are available for only \$198. Please call 662.846.4708 for an order form.



Actual Photo

Clip and mail to Box 3141 DSU, Cleveland, MS 38733



DSU Alumnus and Former Baseball Player Hits Home Run in the Communications Business

Post attended Delta State from 1978 - 1981

It may seem a long way from the baseball diamonds of Delta State to the top financial position of MediaOne Group, one of the country's most successful communications companies, but for DSU graduate Rick Post, the trip seems a natural progression.

Born and raised in Sacramento, California, Post moved with his parents, two brothers and a sister, to St. Louis, where he finished high school, lettering in baseball, basketball and football. Post remembers always having had a love for baseball and an interest in business.

"I didn't know where I'd end up, but I knew it would be somewhere in the business world," says Post. He went on to a junior college in St. Louis where he pitched for the baseball team and held hopes of being drafted. When his junior college stint was over, Post talked with some former teammates who had gone on to DSU. One of them, Kevin Medlock spoke to Coach "Boo" Ferriss about Post.

"I came down and threw a few balls for Coach," says Post. "I met him and looked at the school, the business school in particular because that was my major. I decided that the smallness of the university really appealed to me. The smaller school environment, with a higher ratio of student to faculty, benefited me a lot."

Post, a 20-year-old at the time and unfamiliar with the Delta, says he was shocked driving from Memphis to Cleveland.

"I told Coach Ferriss that I thought those white puffy things were carnations, not cotton balls," he laughs. "I got a good razzing about that when that story got around. But I had never seen anything like it before. However, the university was really impressive."

Post remembers spending his undergraduate days doing a lot of intense studying at DSU and making commutes to St. Louis to see his girlfriend, Sharon, who would later become his wife. After two years of maintaining a long-distance relationship, Post and Sharon married and returned to the Delta, where Post entered graduate school and Sharon worked on her education degree.

"I was doing graduate assistant work with Coach Ferriss. It kept me pretty busy, going to business school and trying to get it all done in five semesters. It was pretty intense. There were a lot of library hours," says Post.

Upon attaining his master's degree, Post began to interview for sales and marketing positions. Then he got a career break. His father, an engineer with McDonnell Douglas, had arranged for Post to have an inter-

view in the company's contracts administration group.

"I was standing in the lobby, and I walked the head of personnel for all of McDonnell Douglas," remembers Post. "We started talking, and the next thing I knew I was in his office chatting."

Post credits this meeting with just being in the right place at the right time, but the personnel chief must have seen something special in Post because before he left that day, he had been made an offer to join a new financial management program.

"They had been recruiting from graduate programs around the country, typically from places like the University of Chicago, the University of Illinois, Northwestern. So here this new graduate with a degree from Delta State University kind of stuck out," says Post.

Post spent three years in the program, which he says accelerated his career. He performed various financial functions, gaining experience in audit, financial systems, accounting, financial administration and the like. He ended up in the mergers and acquisitions division. The year was 1981, and Post recalls thinking his \$350 a week salary was more money than he made in two months as a graduate assistant. During his Delta

State days, he says a big night out for him and Sharon was at the old Pasquale's on Friday night. "We were living high on the hog when we did that," laughs Post.

After about two years in M&A, Post got a call to join the Denver division of Security Pacific Bank. It seemed like a good chance for advancement, so he and Sharon moved west. Post stayed with the company for about a year then moved to the natural resources division of Union Pacific Railroad.

At Union Pacific Post did analytical work

for transactions, focusing on Union Pacific's natural resources operations. "My job was to help them sort out what they wanted to own and what they wanted to sell and help them sell it," says Post.

When the company offered him a position at its Houston headquarters, Post declined. He and Sharon were two years into a four-year adoption process and eager to start their family. Moving would take the process back to ground zero. That was when he took a position with U S WEST Financial Services. Today, the Posts have three sons, Johnathon,

CONTINUED, PAGE 16



The Post family (1 to r) Johnathon, Rick, Daniel, Sharon, and Michael



➔ continued from PAGE 15

Michael and Daniel.

There, Post worked in M&A and corporate development. "I was doing financial and analytical work around transactions," he says. The move, he adds, was a good career choice. He was involved in numerous deals and handled a lot of the larger transactions for U S WEST. The company had a huge telephone communications division and had diversified. It operated a commercial real estate division that Post says had terrible timing. "We had put about \$2 billion into commercial real estate all around the country. We had 12 million square feet of office space and several hotels. Completion required significant additional investment at the same time real estate values were declining," recalls Post.

The CEO called personally to ask Post to consider getting involved in the real estate division to help figure out what course to take. The challenge was both high-risk and high-profile; Post took it on. After about four months of analysis, he discovered the division had lost enormous value in the real estate downturn and says, "I delivered the bad news."

He was then asked to run the division, to figure out how to finish construction and wind it down. Then in 1993 when the company decided to exit its financial services operations, Post again got a call from the CEO, who wanted him to help sort out all the company's financial business holdings. "He said he knew it was a tough job, but that it would be a great learning experience for me. He told me to trust him, that if I did it well, it could do good things for me."

He took on the challenge and says it gave him "a lot of exposure and experience ahead of what I would have if I had stayed in the mainstream."

By 1996, U S WEST had all its divisions under control and sold about \$6 billion in assets. Post was asked to run the corporate development division and head all M&A activities for both the phone and media divisions. The move into the company's technology-driven division resulted in a learning curve for Post, but his basic business knowledge served him well. "You don't have to understand every aspect of how technology

works, but you need to understand the economics and market demand of your products."

In 1997, U S WEST asked Post to become CEO of MediaOne, its cable and wireless division. The phone side and cable side of the company, says Post, were headed for a collision course in competing with one another, so U S WEST's board of directors created two separately traded companies. In 1998 MediaOne Group became a separate company, and says Post, who now serves as CFO and executive vice president, "It was a new company that just happened to have \$20 billion of market value and terrific assets around the world."

By 1999, says Post, MediaOne was looking to grow and considering mergers when it got an offer of some \$53 billion from Comcast, based in Philadelphia, to acquire MediaOne. Post was one of four people who negotiated the transaction to sell to Comcast, but 40 days later, AT&T topped Comcast's bid, offering \$60 billion for MediaOne. Post was also involved in those negotiations. The merger is pending.

Looking back at his own stellar career, Post offers this advice to young business men and women; "Pick some goals that are achievable and stick with them. Don't get too high on the ups and too low on the downs. Keep setting new goals as you achieve past ones and take charge of your career."

Post and Sharon have shared their success with Delta State. They have made generous contributions to the Indoor Baseball Practice Facility, \$50,000 for the purchase/installation of a new practice surface; \$15,000 to the Eloise Stratton Walker Elementary Education Scholarship Fund; \$20,000 to the College of Education which established a four-year scholarship fund; and \$15,000 to the College of Business.

"We have tried to give back to areas that we have benefited from enormously," says Post about their gift to Delta State University. "We benefited a lot from attending Delta State and we are committed to its future in every way."

DSU Alumnus Initiates Water Well project in Bangladesh

Charlie Coffman, '48, leads Group Study Exchange for Rotary International

In 1995, a group of people led by DSU alumnus Charlie Coffman, of Fayetteville, North Carolina, went on a Group Study Exchange to the country of Bangladesh. The GSE, was sponsored by the Fayetteville Rotary Club.



Charlie Coffman

Coffman saw the many needs of the people there, and he decided to do something about it.

The poverty and manner of life that many of the people of Bangladesh live with on a daily basis is unimaginable to most Americans. One of the main problems Coffman noticed was the need for clean water. Because of the extremes of drought and devastating flooding in Bangladesh, the availability and quality of water is a constant issue. They depend on rivers and lakes for all purposes such as cooking, bathing, cleaning of cooking utensils, as well as for transportation.

"We went from one end of the country to the other. The thing that impressed me most is that they have 120 million people in a place the size of Wisconsin. People are bustling about at all times of the day and we noticed some of their needs," Coffman said. "Out of this grew the Rotary project to dig water wells for them, through Rotary's matching grant pro-

gram."

The Rotary Club in North Khulna, Bangladesh was asked to participate with the Fayetteville club, and this joining enabled them to receive the matching grant from RI. Each club raised \$3,500, which was matched with \$7,000 from RI, bringing the total funds available up to \$14,000.00. A proposal was made to dig 14 deep wells in the Southwest portion of Bangladesh near where the Ganges River Flows through the country.

The city of Khulna which is surrounded by chains of villages, is densely populated with well over a million people. This area of the country has high concentrations of saline, which makes shallow tube wells unsafe, due to the possibility of arsenic poisoning. Therefore, it is necessary to install deep tube wells to provide sweet, safe drinking water. Fortunately, for the area, the original proposal was exceeded and six additional wells were dug.

Coffman said, "Basically we just went as a Group Study Exchange, through Rotary, trying to become acquainted with another culture. And they sent a group over as well, to stay with us. But it is through these simple purposes, that things get done through Rotary. It was very satisfying to see that need being met."

Coffman was born in Lula, MS and raised in Merigold. After attending DSU he was principal at Shelby High School, and eventually went to North Carolina as a professor and head of a graduate program there. Now living in Helena, Montana, Coffman and his wife J'Nell are enjoying their retirement.



DSU Swimmer Honored

Mandy Lee, a 1999 DSU graduate, was named the 1999 Mississippi Woman of the Year by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). Lee was one of the 51 state-level winners (including the District of Columbia) to receive the prestigious award.



Mandy Lee

The NCAA Woman of the Year Award honors outstanding female student-athletes who have excelled in the collegiate environment beyond their athletic pursuits with academic achievements and community involvement.

Lee, a Health, Physical Education and Recreation major, graduated from Delta State with a perfect 4.0 grade point average. Currently, the Oshawa, Canada native is pursuing her masters degree in physical education while serving as a graduate assistant coach for the Statesmen and Lady Statesmen swim teams.

A two-time captain of the Lady Statesmen swim team, Lee's accomplishments in the classroom and the pool earned her the honor of being named to both the Academic and Athletic All-Conference teams for four consecutive years.

DSU swimming and diving coach Ronnie Mayers was very pleased with Lee's recognition. "I'm so excited for Mandy," Mayers said. "She has been a model student-athlete and is very deserving of this honor."

Mathews to Head Statesmen Defense

Head Football Coach Steve Campbell has named Gwayne Mathews as the defensive coordinator for the Statesmen football program. Mathews, a DSU alumnus, returns to Delta State from New Orleans where he served as the head football coach at De La Salle High School since 1992.

"I'm extremely happy to be able to come back to Delta State," said Mathews. "In many ways, this is a homecoming for me and my family because it was here that I met my wife, Angel, and it was here that both of our children (daughter Brittany and son Brishen) were born."

After a stellar career at Delta State as a linebacker/defensive back, Mathews played two seasons for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers of the Canadian League. He returned to Delta State University in 1991, serving as a graduate assistant with the coaching staff before leaving to take the De La Salle job.



Gwayne Mathews

DSU Homecoming Court & Queen Named



1999 DSU Homecoming Court

Delta State University has named its 1999 Homecoming Court and Queen.

They are (seated from left) Homecoming Queen, Shelley Foster, a senior from Clarksdale, Tawania Willis from Aberdeen, and Lesley Foster from Clarksdale; (standing from left) freshman maids Lacy Hodges from Grenada, Dana Carpenter from Greenwood; sophomore maids Margaritta Lattimore from Greenville, Emily Trotter from Cordova, TN; junior maids Sarah Deason from Cleveland and Renaca Hicks from Picayune.

Sports Illustrated Honors Four From DSU

When Sports Illustrated released its list of the century's top 50 athletes from Mississippi, there were four DSU representatives included.

Leading the way from DSU was legendary women's basketball coach Margaret Wade. Also recognized were three-time All-American Lucia Harris-Stewart, former Delta State baseball coach and Boston Red Sox pitcher Dave "Boo" Ferriss and the New York Giants' All-NFL defensive lineman Jack Gregory.

Moore Joins DSU Coaching Staff

After being with the Lady Statesmen basketball program for five years as a player and graduate assistant, Scottie Moore has been named assistant women's basketball coach.



Scottie Moore

In making the announcement, Lady Statesmen Head Coach Lloyd Clark said, "Scottie knows how we do things here. She knows our system and demonstrated the work ethic and loyalty needed to be successful. I look forward to working with her."

A native of Senatobia, Moore earned four letters as a member of the Lady Statesmen, played on two Elite Eight squads, and finished her career ranked in the top ten in school history for three-point shots made.

DSU Cheerleaders Win Sixth Championship



Congratulations to the DSU Cheerleaders on winning their sixth national championship. Keep up the good work!



DSU to build State's first Indoor Baseball Facility

Facility will be named after former player, Bryce Griffis

Groundbreaking for Delta State University's new 10,400-square-foot indoor baseball practice facility took place February 7, 2000, about 18 months earlier than former longtime baseball coach project leader Boo Ferriss thought it would happen. That's because the money for the facility has come readily from former players and friends of DSU. The first gift came as a commitment of \$33,000 from DSU's 1977 World Series team. The rest of the money has come quickly. In fact, says Ferriss, organizers originally had hoped to raise \$250,000 in three years; instead they have raised \$600,000 in half that time.



Artist rendering of new indoor practice facility.

Those who know Ferriss are not surprised. They point out that the coach is beloved and highly respected and that the project's generous benefactors were happy to support the project because of their respect for Ferriss.

"When Coach Ferriss came to me with his dream and divulged his thoughts about the kind of indoor practice facility he wanted, he asked me if I thought the DSU Alumni Foundation would be supportive of it," recalls Dr. Don Skelton, DSU Alumni Foundation Director. "I told him I felt they would. The key was whether he would be the chief fund-raiser. With his reputation, success was insured." That so much money was raised in such a short time, he adds, "...is a testament to Coach Ferriss."

Adds Dr. Jim Jordan, athletic director at DSU: "I've been at five other institutions and I have never seen anybody have as much an impact as Coach Ferriss has had on our baseball program. This center is a tribute to him and his love for Delta State baseball."

Ferriss is grateful for the gifts that are making the construction of the center possible, and he notes that the facility will not only be a tremendous boost to the baseball program, it also gives the university another source of pride. "It's the only indoor facility in the state used exclusively for baseball practice; in fact, it's a rarity in the nation. We've found many multi-purpose facilities, but no arenas just for baseball," he says.

The project is also a tribute to one of its chief benefactors and state business leaders, former DSU athletic standout Bryce Griffis of Starkville, president and owner of Sturgis Timber Co. Griffis contributed the lead gift to the facility and an endowed gift to maintain it. The facility, which should be completed in about six months, will bear his name: the Bryce Griffis Baseball Practice Center.

"This new indoor practice center will be a tremendous boost to our program," says DSU baseball coach, Mike Kinnison. "One of the biggest advantages in my view will be that the new facility will help in our recruitment efforts. I think it is so positive that when we have prospective players on campus we will be able to show them a facility like this that not everyone else has and that they can see there is an opportunity here for them to develop completely."

Ferriss says that Griffis, a 1954 graduate of DSU who lettered in both football and baseball, "is fitting and deserving of the honor."

Skelton agrees, "Besides his generosity, Griffis has provided leadership throughout the years not only to the university but also to the business community."

In 1998 Griffis established the Bryce Griffis Endowment Fund to provide monies to fulfill departmental and student needs and in 1987 he endowed a gift to the College of Business. Griffis was DSU's Outstanding Alumnus in 1986 and has served on the DSU Foundation board and as president of the Athletic Alumni Association. As an appointee of former Gov. William Winter, Griffis served on the board of trustees for the Institutions of Higher Learning and was its president in 1986-87. He has served as president of the Mississippi Forestry Association and the Southeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association. He was the 1985 recipient of the Distinguished Service Award from the Mississippi Lumber Manufacturers Association. In 1994 Griffis received the Contribution to Amateur Football Award from the



Bryce Griffis and "Boo" Ferriss at groundbreaking

Mississippi State Chapter of the National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame. He is president of the Mississippi State University Foundation, chairman of the advisory board of directors of Deposit Guaranty National Bank in Starkville and a trustee of Wood College and the Mississippi United Methodist Foundation.

The lead benefactor himself says he considers having the center named after him a real honor. He has contributed, he explains, because of a deep respect and admiration for Ferriss and because he wanted to help promote and continue the rich tradition in baseball that Delta State has always had. "Coach Ferriss has long held a dream to have this kind of facility," says Griffis. "In north Mississippi the baseball team has to contend with a lot of bad weather. With this indoor practice facility, the team can practice more, and there will be other uses for the center, too, for the university and the community."

The facility will include a full-size infield area when the nets of two batting cages are raised; two portable pitching mounds; retractable wall panels to allow expanded practice area; artificial surface throughout; and restrooms and storage areas. One room of the center will house highlights of former players and will feature all-time accomplishments of the DSU baseball program. The foyer will display recognition of all contributors to the facility, which is being built immediately west of Ferriss Field.

Skelton says the center will be a real boon to the athletics program and will help in recruitment. "When you show somebody something that no one else has, you are ahead of the game," he says. "I expect we'll see other indoor facilities being built real quickly, especially at Division I universities."

Sports Hall of Fame Inductees Named

Coach Bill Marchant, DSU liaison for the Athletic Alumni Association, has announced that six former Delta State athletes and a former coach make up the 2000 Class of inductees to be recognized at the DSU Sports Hall of Fame Banquet on April 8. Also being honored as the recipient of the "Distinguished Statesman" award will be four-sport letterman John Hamner (1955-1959) of Lanett, Alabama.



O.W. "Wig" Reily

Coach O.W. "Wig" Reily, longtime track coach and dean of student affairs at Delta State, is to be inducted posthumously. Reily passed away on September 14, 1999.

Other inductees include men's basketball career scoring leader Carl Brown (1983-1986), football four-year starter and offensive lineman Eamie Chaisson (1964-1968), baseball's career ERA leader Doug Grantham (1968-1969), baseball's All-American outfielder Mark Graham, football All-American running back Les Henning (1960-1961), and men's basketball and track standout Gene Kirk (1966-1969).

With The Classes



Note: All references in Mississippi unless otherwise indicated

1948

Charlie Coffman was honored as a recipient for the National Rotarian Meritorious Service Award.

1949

Robert "Catfish" Sykes was recognized by France's Minister of Defense with a commemorative tribute provided soldiers of the Allied forces engaged in the battles of D-Day in Normandy and the Liberation in 1944-45.

1954

Jim Drewry's Booneville High School football squad won the 1999 Mississippi State 2A Championship finishing a 15-0 season. With a record of 242 victories, 104 losses and five ties, Drewry is currently the winningest football coach in Mississippi public schools.



W.S. Donald '54

W.S. Donald participated in the National Senior Olympics in Orlando, FL.

1959

Harry Clarke is associate professor and Director of the School of Music at the University of Kentucky.

1960

Dr. Robert W. Hamblin, director of the Center for Faulkner Studies and professor of English at Southeast Missouri State University was the guest lecturer for DSU's First Tuesday Program in November.

1961

Peter Robinson teaches American History at Jacksonville State University in Alabama.

Frank E. Greenlee is a Certified Public Accountant in Atlanta, GA.

1963

Tommy Henderson of Tupelo has retired from the teaching profession after 37 years of service

1965

Franklin W. Jones, a regional human resources manager in Texas, recently retired from the Army and Air Force Exchange Service with the Department of Defense.

1967

Femie Wood Jr. is vice president of The Louisiana Companies, an insurance company in Baton Rouge.

1968

Walter R. "Bobby" Barr has joined Deposit Guaranty National Bank in Meridian as a vice president and small business relationship manager.

1969

Rush Miller is director of the University Library System at the University of Pittsburg in Pennsylvania.

Mike Garvey is a realtor in Hattiesburg.

1970

Beverly Browning Nobile, director of the Stanny Sanders Library, was the recipient of the first Mississippi Delta Community College "Trojan Spirit Award."

Dr. Charlotte Gorman, an extension agent with Family and Consumer Sciences at Texas A & M University, is the author of *The Frugal Mind*, a practical guide in managing personal resources.



Charlotte Gorman '70

1971

Jane Shattuck is a teacher at Helen Caro Elementary School in Pensacola, FL.

1972

Dr. Jesse Palmer is a professor of Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Jack Kyle, executive director of the Mississippi Commission for International Cultural Exchange, was decorated with the highest order for cultural services rendered to France, the Knight in the Order of Arts and Letters.

1973

Nanette Sumrall Peacock earned her masters degree from Mississippi College in Clinton.

Frank Ferguson is the principal of Drew High School in Monticello, AR.

Dr. Wayne Blansett, Vice President for Student Affairs at Delta State University, was a participant in Harvard University's Institute for Educational Management

1974

Jack Ratterman earned his masters degree from Nova University in Florida.

Dr. Benjamin R. Seyfarth is an associate professor in the Computer Science Dept. at the Univ. of Southern Miss.

J. Walter Wood Jr. is executive director of the Alabama Department of Youth Services.

1975

Paula Gaddis Porter earned her masters degree in physical therapy from Southwest Texas State University.

Dr. Ron Porter is a toxicologist with the U.S. Air Force at Brooks AFB in San Antonio, TX.

Greely Myatt is an associate professor of Studio Art at the University of Memphis.

Beverly Irby is an associate professor and coordinator of research for the Center of Research and Doctorial Studies at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, TX.

Hayden Mitchell, of Hattiesburg, is the executive director for the United Way of Southeast Mississippi.

Dana Foster is a case manager with the Mississippi State University Extension Service in Jackson.

1976

Joseph Babb is senior vice president with Deposit Guaranty National Bank in the Madison-Ridgeland office.

1978

Johnny S. Eiland is an Allstate Insurance agent in Hattiesburg

Pamela S. MacKie is a practicing attorney with expertise in real property matters and is a member of the Governor's Commission for Sustainable South Florida.

Jimmy Newquist is a vice president and member of the board of directors with Wellington Associates, Inc. in Jackson.

1979

Tena Golding is a mathematics professor at Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond, LA.

Charles Carraway, an art instructor at the Mississippi Museum of Art and adjunct professor at Jackson State University, was a honoree of the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters.

1980

Dr. Floyd Richmond is a music education professor at West Chester University in West Chester, PA.

Steven A. Conlee is a web specialist with information systems at the University of Memphis.

1981

Sam E. Thomas is the bursar in business services at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Joe Gibbs is first vice president of marketing at Trustmark Bank in Jackson.

J. Stacy Davidson has created Integrity Online, a filtered Internet service, in Jackson.

Dave Kirby is assistant professor of Psychology at the University of Louisiana at Monroe.

1982

Dr. Joe B. Whitehead is associate professor and chair of the Physics and Astronomy Department at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Greg Fant is assistant professor and chair of the Music Department at New Mexico State University.

1983

Taylor Williams graduated from the Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy and is employed with the Blytheville, AR police department.

Keith Jones' exhibit of the mixed media "Digiworks" was shown in the Marie Hull Gallery at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa.

Doug Waggle is a professor at Campbell School of Business at Berry College in Mount Berry, GA.

Forest Thigpen is the president of Mississippi Family Council.

1984

Harold R. Mosley is assistant professor of Old Testament & Hebrew at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Larry Agostinelli is an artist/illustrator for Public Service and Continuing Education at the University of Mississippi.

1985

Dr. Scott Nelson of Cleveland has retained membership in the American Academy of Family Physicians, the national association for family doctors.

Dr. Steve Stanford is vice president for Student Affairs at Mississippi College in Clinton.

Paul P. Boulter Jr., an adjunct professor at Delta State, is an attorney in Greenville.

Dr. Jill Clemons Campbell is a medical doctor in Orlando, FL.

1986

Kathy Garrett is a marketing officer working with the media relations office of the Marketing and Advancement Division of the University of Memphis.

Marcia M. Abide is assistant professor of Education at Loyola University in New Orleans.

1987

Randy Coleman is a research entomologist with the United States Department of Agriculture Subtropical Agricultural Research Service in Weslaco, TX.

Dexter Criss is an assistant professor of Chemistry at Plattsburg State University.

1988

Lance Dalton is a quality assurance manager with Cives Steel in Rosedale.

Elisa Lamar Self was named "Teacher of the Year" at Canton Academy.



Kenner Patton '88

Kenner Patton has been promoted to director of photography and color quality at Southern Living magazine in Birmingham, AL.

1989

Wade Baskin achieved the division rank of fifth in the world at the 1999 Taekwondo World Championships held in Little Rock, AR.

Laura Bassie is the co-owner of Rehabilitation Services in Cleveland.

Lynn S. Alderman is a medical review nurse with Blue Cross/Blue Shield State Health plan in Jackson.

1990

Rodney Hughes, DSU's Young Black Alumnus of the Year, has returned to Memphis to enter business after serving the past four years as assistant commissioner for small business, entrepreneurship and minority affairs for the State of Tennessee.



Rodney Hughes '90

With The Classes



1991

Richard S. Myers is an associate with the intellectual property law firm of Waddley & Patterson in Nashville.

Andrea Kimbrell is a supervisor at Home CPA Group in Grenada.

Jamie Cox Steen of Olive Branch is the senior corporate controller at JT Shannon Lumber Company.

Missy Brooks, a Senior Property and Casualty Underwriter with Southern Farm Bureau Casualty in Jackson, was awarded the professional insurance designation Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter (CPCU) by the American Institute for CPCU.



Missy Brooks '91

1992

Heath Thompson is a registered nurse in ICMU at Ocean Springs' Singing River Hospital.

Rebecca Goellner Thompson is a mathematics instructor with Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.

Rain Jaudon is founder of the Mississippi Delta Songwriter's Workshop in Gulfport.

Julie Price has opened a rehabilitation facility in Cleveland.

1993

Craig Vincent of Lucedale opened his second clothing store, Vincent's Clothiers, in Semmes, AL.

Darry "D.D." Hardy of Memphis was named to the Vice President's Cabinet and also named National Pharmaceutical Representative of the Year for Pfizer, Inc.

Wyatt Rives is a supervisor in tissue services and the recovery coordinator for Mississippi Organ Recovery Agency.

John W. Hester Jr. is vice president of John W. Hester & Associates, an international engineering and construction management firm in Shelby.

1994

Stacy Marchant Myers is an eighth grade teacher at Grasslands Middle School in Brentwood, TN.

Greg Tolbert is an operations manager for the Sherwin Williams Company in Pensacola, FL.

C. Daniel Prather of Odessa, FL has attained accredited airport executive status with the American Association of Airport Executives.

1995

John Cox, an attorney, has joined his father and uncle in the law firm of Cox and Moore in Cleveland.

Fred "Trey" Cooke III of Leland is the director of Delta Wildlife, a conservation organization located in Stoneville.

Anne Maranto is employed as a speech therapist for Desoto County Schools in Southaven.

Lesia Mathis Beaver earned her M.S. in Nursing as a Family Nurse Practitioner from Mississippi State University.

1996

Shawn Shurden graduated in the top third of his law school class at William & Mary College and is working with Ed Pittman and the Mississippi Supreme Court.

Michael Shane Humphries is the administrator for Baptist Adult Day Health Services in Clinton.

Chastity Brown Humphries is employed with Institutions of Higher Learning in Jackson as the program administrator for the William Winter Teaching Scholar Loan Program.

Glenda Tesa Boswell is the community outreach representative in the Marketing Department for the Mississippi Methodist Rehabilitation Center in Jackson.

Eddie Ruth Bradford is a family nurse practitioner with AEH Community Health Services in Clarksdale.

1997

Paul Townsend IV is a personal banker with Guaranty Bank & Trust Company in Indianola.

David Crowe is a physical therapist at the Bolivar Medical Center in Cleveland.

Lisa Webster is employed with the sales promotion department of Magnolia Graphics in Grenada.

Heather Irby is working on a M.A. in Marriage and Family Counseling and M.A. in Educational Ministry from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, TX.

Allison Jones is the art director for S o s s a m a n , Bateman & Associates advertising agency in Memphis, TN.



Allison Jones '97

1998

Stacy Elizabeth Haynes is pursuing a M.S. degree in Communicative Disorders at The University of Mississippi.

Allison Melton is director of The First Street Gallery and a member of the board of directors for the Berta B. Calhoun Fine Arts Council in Grenada.

Melissa S. Farris is a technology training coordinator at Coahoma Community College in Clarksdale.

Kelly Dawn Tarver earned her masters degree in Elementary Education from Mississippi College in Clinton.

1999

Lee Gladden Jr. is attending law school at Mississippi College in Jackson.

Christy Hawkins is a teacher at Coldwater High School.

Marshall Whittemore is an assistant football coach and teacher at Grenada High School.

Late DSU Alumnus Recognized In New Orleans

For six decades Morrison fought to preserve French Quarter



PHOTO BY SYNDEY BYRD

The late Mary Meek Morrison, '33

The late Mary Meek Morrison, a native of Canton, graduated from what was then called Delta State College in 1933, and then moved with her husband to the French Quarter in New Orleans in 1939. She quickly became involved in what was to become her legacy - fighting to preserve the historic neighborhood in which she lived for six decades. Mrs. Morrison, who died February 28, 1999, was named one of the "Top Ten New Orleanians of the Century." The following article was recently published in New Orleans Magazine.

Mary Morrison joined the crusade to save the French Quarter back in the days of Mayor Robert Maestri. She was still fighting in 1999, when Formosan termites had joined the ranks of the enemy.

At 87, she volunteered to monitor a termite trap for researchers during the swarming season.

In the 1960s, she was one of the leaders of a group opposing an elevated expressway to be built between the edge of the French Quarter and the riverfront - an idea that now seems ludicrous but then was touted as progressive.

Sixty-one years ago, she and her husband, Jake, were already battling as preservationists, wading in after Betsy Werlein and Martha G. Robinson to demand respect for French Quarter architecture and its *tout ensemble*. The issue at the time was a men's restroom that the Napoleon House wanted to plunk down in its courtyard. The case eventually went before the state Supreme Court, which ruled that the Vieux Carre Commission (formed in 1937) had the right to stop exterior construction on a historic building, even in a courtyard. That ruling was significant in that it established the regulatory power of the commission, which would become a watchdog for Quarter preservation.

Over the years, Morrison became a frequent speaker at City Council meetings. There were battles won and battles lost. She often said that when she and her husband bought their little house on Ursulines Street in 1939 for \$5,000, the neighborhood was considered a slum. But she saw its potential: unique buildings worth preserving and restoring.

And there was a feeling of neighborliness. "All of us down here were so broke," she reminisced in a 1998 Times-Picayune interview about Formosan termites. "We swapped things to get by. Plants. Food. We were a close community... I was surrounded by friends. And now I'm surrounded by Sentricon."

Morrison died at home in her beloved French Quarter Feb. 28, 1999.



Wedding Bells

Note: All wedding dates are in 1999 unless otherwise indicated

Shequita Lucinda Williams to **Shaun Keith Pittman** '89 on July 24.
Janice Allain Burnett to Jonathan Bryce Griffin on July 24.
Lori Anne Boho '96 to Charles Whitfield Jr. on July 24.
Willie B. Taylor '95 to Lewis Johnny Green on Aug. 7.
Anita Channel '95 to Jim Loznicka on Aug. 7.
Leigh Ann Black '91 to Dennis G. Edington on Aug. 20.
Jennifer R. Rhodes '97 to Justin S. James on Aug. 21.
Angela McCoy '98 to **Brad Cooper** '90 on Sept. 4.
Julie Carol Tullos '89 to James W. Leonard on Sept. 4.
Christie Jean Owens to **Brian Keith Ayers** '98 on Sept. 11.
Denise Lucille Harrison '96 to William Bradley Allbritton on Sept. 18.
Lauren Claire Sutterfield to **Tracy Todd Lindsey** '97 on Sept. 25.
Jennifer Cary Hawkins '98 to Richard Noah New on Sept. 25.
Lesa Mathis '95 to Scott Beaver on Sept. 26.
Grace Choy to **C. Daniel Prather** '94 on Oct. 2.
Lori Frances Moore '98 to Stephen Wade Prather on Oct. 9.
Ashley Renae Beckett to **John Paul Soliz** '98 on Oct. 9.
Amy Elizabeth Pentecost '99 to William Charles Hendon on Oct. 16.
Mary Elizabeth "Beth" Smith '97 to Sammie E. Bell Jr. on Oct. 29.
Emily Kathryn Cooper '99 to Kevin Dale Mitchell on Oct. 30.
Mary Paige Kempinska '94 to Brian Phillip Stumph on Nov. 6.
Nancy A. Edmondson '85 to Jack Welch III on Nov. 13.
Mary Margaret Shannon '96 to Paul Green on Nov. 13.
Emily Eugene Ratliff '98 to **Allen Lee Havens** '99 on Nov. 20.
Lisa Renee Coleman '82 to Gerald Starr Watson on Nov. 20.
Tanja Moniquia Shell '99 to **Michael Derrick Smith** '87 on Nov. 27.
Sharma Ann Nash to Larry Delwayneus Stokes Jr on Nov. 27.
Paige McKay '98 to **Thomas Jackson Holliday** '98 on Nov. 27.

Cynthia Ann Little to **Dwight Carroll Herlong** '90 on Nov. 27.
Jamye Chudy '98 to Jason McClellan on Nov. 29.
Bethany Lynne Brantley to **Thomas Bradley Johnson** '98 on Dec. 4.
Stacey Lynn Canthen to **James Andrew Herndon** '94 on Dec. 4.
Chevis Lorraine Trammell '98 to **Jon Marcus Taylor** '96 on Dec. 4.
Leah Kaye Purvis '98 to **Kenneth Myles Walcott** '94 on Dec. 11.
Diedra "Dee Dee" Jones to **George Bassi** '87 on Dec. 12.

Baby Statesmen

Note: All births in 1999 unless otherwise indicated

Phillip Rexel III "Tripp" to Mr. and Mrs. Rex Munsey (**Pamela Hardy** '87) on Nov. 12, 1998.
Corie Elizabeth to Mr. and Mrs. Eric Hamer (**Alicia Gong** '92) on Dec. 19, 1998.
Claire Elizabeth to Mr. and Mrs. **James "Chip" Armishaw** '87 (**Suzy Farmer** '91) on Jan. 4.
Morgan Scott to Mr. and Mrs. **Scott Reed** '96 (**Kim Moody** '94) on Feb. 7.
Gregory Stone to Mr. and Mrs. **Greg Tolbert** '94 (Karen) on Feb. 9.
Emma Kathleen to Mr. and Mrs. **D.D. Hardy** '93 (**Allyson Caldwell** '94) on Mar. 5.
James Fisher to Mr. and Mrs. **James Ray** '93 (**Kim Gray** '92) on Mar. 22.
Garrett Hardy to Mr. and Mrs. **Tim Clarke** '92 (Shannon) on Apr. 5.
Devin Michael to Mr. and Mrs. **Michael J. Halford** '83 on Apr. 8.
Haley Beth to Mr. and Mrs. **Jason Carter** '94 (**Kristin Galtelli** '95) on Apr. 12.
Andrew Martin to Mr. and Mrs. **Marty Bradshaw** '86 (Kendra Moss) on Apr. 28.
Parker Bradley to Mr. and Mrs. **Brad Teague** '92 (**Gina Beach** '93) on May 6.
William Burgess to Mr. and Mrs. **Richard Myer** '91 (**Stacy Marchant** '94) on May 11.
Talon Reed to Mr. and Mrs. **Chris Little** '96 (Amy Hart Depta) on May 18.
Laura Page to Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Askins (**Kim Ivey** '87) on May 20.
Anekein Luke to Mr. and Mrs. **Mitchell Rish** '89 (**Michelle Bollinger** '90) on June 9.
William Russell to Dr. and Mrs. **Doty Farmer** '92 (**Vontese** '93) on June 9.

Mary Farrell to Mr. and Mrs. **Brian Hitchcock** '91 (Lee Carter) on June 29.
Luke Carter to Mr. and Mrs. Fondren (**Amanda Barrett** '96) on July 21.
Jewel Claire to Mr. and Mrs. Skip Godot (**Penney Pyles** '92) on July 26.
Richard Austin to Mr. and Mrs. **Scott Gentry** '91 (April) on August 9.
Matthew John to Mr. and Mrs. Rick Kindhart (**Christy Williams** '96) on August 14.
Anna Faith to Mr. and Mrs. Ted Fortenberry (**Candace Collins** '91) on August 31.
John Martin Jr. to Mr. and Mrs. John Smithhart (**Erin Hammett** '96) on November 8.

Jerry & Alicia Dunn '95, '96
Robert & Melanie Farmer '89, '88
Holly Fava '88
Aron Frederic '97
Thomas & Kimberly Higgins '96, '95
Dennis Hill '70
Michael & Kim Junkin '91, '90
Hansel & Mary Lou King '64, '66
Robert & Deborah Heslep '95
Wylie & Shirley Hilburn '65, '71
Malenda Ingram '99
James & Angela Kirkland '95
Lee Ann Krause '95
Paul Kyle '91
Windall Lancaster '77
William Lundy '73
Susan Mouton '72
Karen McCarthy '87
Jimmy & Lynn Parkerson '76, '92
Matthew & Kaye Plitt '96, '97
John Povall '92
Christopher & Merritt Rains '98
Clarence & Yamina Richardson '76, '79
Ronnie & Susan Robertson '76, '79
James Wallace Smith '81
Randall Smith '73
Quenton Spruill '65
Worth & Jamie Steen '88, '91
Walter M. Turner '95
Leo Viricillo '74
DeAnne Walberg '94
Voncile Wright '65

New Life Members

Through January 6, 2000

Ronnie & Brenda Aguzzi '73
James Alaniz '80
Travis & Cynthia Bassie '91, '90
Glenda Boswell '96
Dr. Robert Buckley Jr. '67
Betty Jo Bullard '49
Stephanie Caradine '84
Maria Christensen '98
John Christopher Cox '96

ALUMNI UPDATE

What better way to let your classmates know where you are and what you are doing than through the "ALUMNI UPDATES?"

Tell us about yourself - Recently married?
Taken a new job? Been promoted?
Changed addresses? Welcomed new children?

Name _____ Maiden Name _____
Social Security # _____ Work Phone _____
Address _____ Home Phone _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Graduation Year _____ Date of Birth _____
E-mail Address _____
Here's my update _____

Mail to: Delta Currents, Box 3104, DSU, Cleveland, Mississippi 38733
or Fax to (662) 846-4713

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Viking Range Equips President's Home With Appliances

Viking Range, of Greenwood, recently donated \$15,505 worth of state-of-the-art appliances to help remodel the President's home on the campus of Delta State University.

Dr. David Potter and his wife Pam Matthews are delighted with the new equipment. The home, which is used often for University and social functions has been undergoing remodeling since the Potters took residence. The new up-to-date residence, as well as these outstanding amenities reflect a new attitude at Delta State.

"We hope that Viking's gift to the university symbolizes the role that the community can play in the university and we are really grateful for it," says Potter. "It just lights up the kitchen, giving it style and quality as a facility that really makes a big difference," added Potter. "We are also proud to use this as another opportunity to show off the outstanding accomplishments of Fred Carl," said Potter.

This generous gift was the perfect opportunity for Fred Carl, a 1975 graduate of Delta State and owner of Viking Range Corp. to show his loyalty and give back something special to his alma mater. Carl founded Viking Range in 1987, and today provides restaurant-style-cooking appliances for the home. Viking products are sold throughout the United States and in more than 70 countries internationally.



DSU President and First Lady watch executive chef Wally Joe, of KC's Restaurant, prepare one of his specialties on their new Viking Range stove.